

December 15, 2010

ITEM NO. A4

AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ILLINOIS ACTION FOR CHILDREN TO PROVIDE PARENT EDUCATION AND ENHANCED CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL SERVICES FOR CHA FAMILIES

To the Honorable Board of Commissioners:

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Commissioners ("Board") authorize the Chief Executive Officer or his designee to enter into a one-year base contract with two (2) one year options with Illinois Action for Children ("IAFC") for the period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 in an amount not-to-exceed \$330,000.

FUNDING

General Fund

RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY

Vendor:

ILLINOIS ACTION FOR CHILDREN
1340 S. Damen Ave
Chicago, Illinois 60608

Contract Type:

Professional Services

Base Contract Term:

January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011

Option Periods Remaining:

Two

Original Contract Amount:

\$330,000 NTE

M/W/DBE Participation:

Direct ___ % MBE ___ % WBE ___ % DBE

Indirect ___ % MBE 20 % WBE ___ % DBE

Waiver ___ Yes/No

Section 3:

1 (#) Hiring _____ (\$) Subcontracting 1.5% Other Economic Opportunities

GENERAL BACKGROUND

As the only agency funded by the State of Illinois to administer the Illinois Child Care Assistance Program for Cook County, IAFC manages and maintains an extensive database of childcare and early education programs. Based on this status, CHA contracted with IAFC, since 2007, through a non-competitive procurement to provide a childcare referral program specifically for CHA residents. The contract's primary focus was to establish a program to

provide enhanced childcare resource and referral services for CHA families. As the Admissions and Continued Occupancy Policy's ("ACOP") work-requirement has increased to 20 hours per week in FY2010, accessibility to childcare has become an increased need for these families. Due to the success and importance of the enhanced referral program IAFC performs, Resident Services recommends the continuation of the enhanced referral program to assist CHA families in accessing the most effective childcare resource.

IAFC initiated a program of support for parents of young children who are CHA residents. The program includes making enhanced referrals for families to childcare and/or early childhood education programs based on their specific needs and eligibility for various programs. Enhanced referrals include an initial consultation to identify key indicators and needs. Families are then contacted within two (2) days and provided substantial information on available resources. Additional follow-up is made within a week to track child placement and determine if additional follow-up is needed. As of October 2010, 487 enhanced referrals have been completed, and over 4,100 informational packets have been distributed to residents. In addition to continuing the enhanced resource and referral program, in 2011 IAFC will initiate a parent leadership program for CHA residents. Participating parents will engage in a series of ten (10) sessions focused on topics including, but not limited to, child development, parent-child relationship building, effective communication with children, and cultural learning opportunities for children.

Based upon the foregoing, it is in the best interest of the CHA to authorize the Chief Executive Officer, or his designee, to enter into a one-year contract with two (2) one-year options with Illinois Action for Children for the period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 in an amount not-to-exceed \$330,000.

RESOLUTION NO. 2010-CHA-163

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners of the Chicago Housing Authority has reviewed the Board Letter dated December 15, 2010, entitled, "AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ILLINOIS ACTION FOR CHILDREN TO PROVIDE PARENT EDUCATION AND ENHANCED CHILD CARE RESOURCE AND REFERRAL SERVICES FOR CHA FAMILIES";

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CHICAGO HOUSING AUTHORITY

THAT, the Board of Commissioners authorizes the Chief Executive Officer or his designee to enter into a one-year contract with two (2) one-year options with Illinois Action for Children for the period of January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 in an amount not-to-exceed \$330,000.

